

Weekly Bureau of Information for All Who Till the Soil or Are Interested in Making Homes

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

Facts for Farmers, Stock Breeders, Poultry Raisers, Orchardists, Truckers and Gardeners—Queries and Answers

All inquiries and communications addressed to The Times-Dispatch will receive prompt attention. This department will appear each Monday, and contributions or suggestions will be welcomed.

CULTURE IN VIRGINIA OF THE BLACK RASPBERRIES

The black raspberries can be profitably grown for the market in any part of Virginia. The soil for the berries should be fairly fertile, free from sod or roots, such as quack or blue-root grass and all foul weeds. Plow rather deep, and harrow until the earth is perfectly fine and pliable. Too much manure has been known to bring on the "yellow," a disease fatal to berry plants. And let it be said right here, if any yellow plants are ever discovered, they should be pulled up at once and promptly buried.

Mark the ground with a corn marker, three feet each way. Set every row one way, and every other one the other way—making the rows three feet by six feet.

Plants should be set as soon as the ground is ready. They are large enough—say from four to six inches high. Put them in deep; six inches is a good depth. They must have a good, firm setting to help the heavy plants with stand the hard winds the following year.

Cultivate and hoe often enough to keep the field free from weeds. The more often the soil is stirred, the greater will be the yield. In a dry season, frequent cultivation draws the moisture to the surface, and helps to tie the plants over until the rain comes. But all soon "run out" berry bushes. Keep the land free and clean.

If no young plants are wanted for the next year, this finishes the first season. If, however, new sets are desired, either for home use or for sale, this is the time to get them. By the way, plants in the spring sell all the way from \$2 to \$10 a thousand, according to supply and demand.

Early in September, bury the ends in the ground about two inches. A trowel makes a good tool for this purpose. In the spring, cover the young set, where it is four or six inches high, from the mother plant. Trim all the other ends on the old plant as far back as they are dead.



Cultivate frequently as long as it can be done without injuring the ripening fruit, perhaps until two or three weeks before picking time.

During the time that the crop is being gathered, the canes for next year's harvest will be getting tall. The patch will need to be gone over several times during July and August and the ends of the canes cut off to about three feet high, in order that new shoots may come out to make larger, healthier bushes.

After the crop is harvested, take out the old bushes by a long-handled, short-bladed knife, made for the purpose, being careful not to harm the young canes. However, if there are too many young canes in a hill, reduce the number to four or five. If well cared for, a patch will last six years.

GENERAL INFORMATION THROUGH QUESTION BOX

For Home Consumption.
To George E. W.—Merely for home consumption, your garden and orchard should contain pretty much all of the fruits and vegetables that will grow in your section and that your family likes, or at least enough variety to cover the season.

That Awful Beetle.
Mrs. J. M. T., Hanover: The same question you ask was answered at some length in the Agricultural Department of last week. It is the May beetle, that is worrying you. See Times-Dispatch of June 8.

To C. L. J., Fluvanna County: Too many people charge up their own short comings to poor land. I doubt if your land is as poor and your soil as acid as you seem to think it is, but if so, lime it first, then fertilize, and grow peas and crimson clover to be turned under. Your land will be rich before you know it.

Fuchsias Want Shade.
Mrs. N. B. reply to your lengthy question. It is sufficient to say that you should give your fuchsias a cool, shady spot. They don't flourish in the sun.

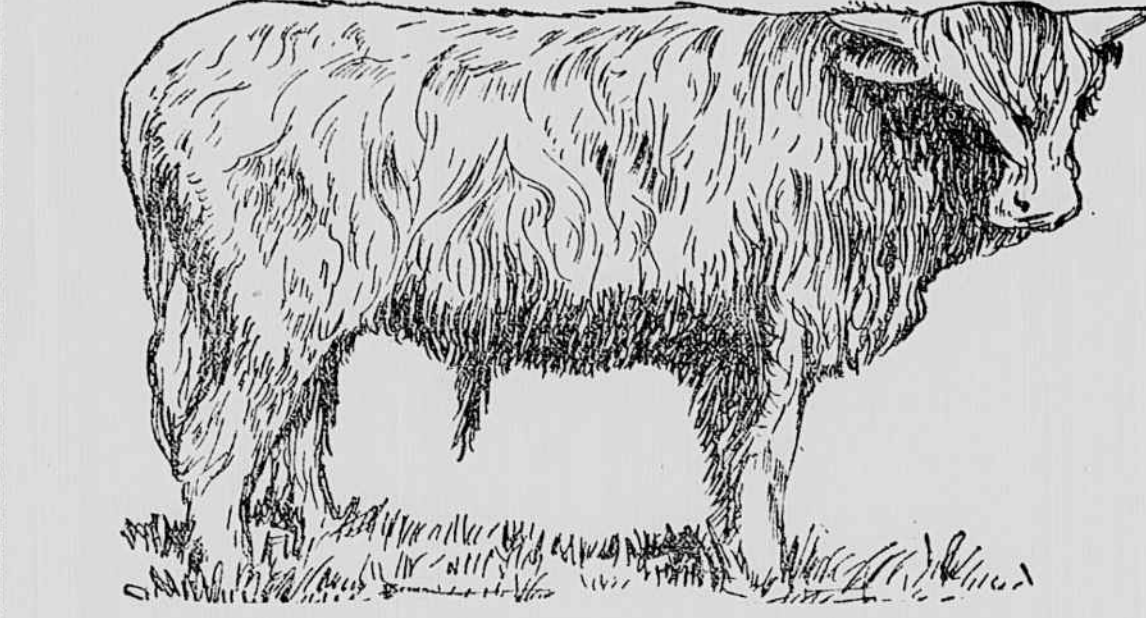
The Bad Borer.
G. W. C., Augusta County: As published in this department several times, Professor Masses's remedy for the peach tree borer is real. Warm it until it is thin enough to spread on a brush, and then cover the roots of the tree. It keeps out the old borer, and prevents it from depositing its eggs.

W. H. Halfway County: "Please give me a good prescription that is available in this country."
An excellent fly poison consists of one pint of milk, one pint of water, one tablespoonful of sugar, one tablespoonful of formaldehyde. The mixture should be poured over a slice of bread in a plate and placed where flies congregate. It is better to place this poison out of reach of small children and also dogs that are fit to live.

BRIFE NOTES THOUGHT OUT BY THE WAYSIDE

Fruit growing, although one of the most important branches of agriculture, has not had the attention from the average farmer, which the value of the fruit as a farm crop justifies. It is true that fruit growers on a large scale are making good money in Virginia, but the average farmer can and ought to make more money from his orchard.

It is said that experiments at the Wisconsin Experiment Station show that hemp is an eradicator of weeds. Land that was badly infested with quack grass and Canada thistle and wild mustard and other types of weeds was cleaned by a crop of hemp, which grew to a height of 10 to 12 inches. Down here in Virginia cowpeas and crimson clover have been found to be



A West Highland cow—the West Highland breed is classed among the best cattle.

fine eradicator of weeds and wire grass.

According to Professor Masses and other experts the place for lime is in the soil, not on top of it.

The time at which cultivation in the orchard shall cease and the cover crops be sown is very largely a matter of judgment. It depends almost entirely upon what soil moisture conditions are during the latter part of July, and what they are likely to be during the remainder of the season.

When we consider that the rich protein crops are also the great soil improvers, it behooves us to make strenuous effort to get some one or more of these crops in our rotation.

Every dairyman who wishes to increase his profits should keep milk records for individual cows.

In nearly all States there is an increase in the number of farms of less than twenty acres.

It is a bad practice to take all the pigs from the sow at once. She should be dried up gradually.

Appetizing and attractive packages when the public appetite for farm products.

Corn, the last of the great cereals to be discovered, is now grown over a greater area of the earth's surface than any other grain except wheat.

Unless the hen-house is dry and comfortable there will not be many eggs, and the fowls are very liable to be sick. Cleanliness is much worse than cold. It will cause roup and all the long list of kindred diseases.

A few trees, well set and cared for, will beautify the landscape far more than a large number poorly set and cared for.

Just because a man is rich is no reason why he is not a good man. Poverty and good citizenship do not always trot in double harness.

BUILDING UP A GOOD BEEF BREED

To build up a herd of good cattle, select the best stock of the type and breed desired. Mate these with common cows if better cows of high grade or pure breeding are not available. Save the female calves which most closely conform to the desired type. Continue to mate these with good pure bred bulls and save the best female offspring as before. Although total purity of blood will never be attained, the common or grade cows of the breed will be available for foundation stock, the desired type can be obtained, and a world of good along the line of improvement can be accomplished.

In selecting bulls for breeding purposes, choose from the so-called special beef breeds, viz., Short Horn, Hereford, Aberdeen, Angus and Galloway. The West Highland breed is also classed with beef cattle. The Polled Durhams may be classed with the Short Horns and the Polled Herefords with the Herefords.

Good ones who expect to feed cattle profitably for the market should not try to feed an animal that is not by conformation and other physical characteristics naturally adapted for fattening. In short, only good feeders should be selected.

The good feeder comes from parents that are good feeders and whose ancestry is of good feeding stock, accustomed to consume large amounts of feed and deposit it upon their bodies as meat of good quality. The importance of good breeding upon the quality of animals kept for a specific purpose, cannot be overestimated, and the use of pure-bred sires in establishing good working herds cannot be overvalued.

The mating of a common ancestor or one of no known breeding with a pure-bred sire and continuing to use a pure-bred sire on the following generations of offspring is known as "grading." Good common cows bred to vigorous pure-bred Short Horn Hereford, or Aberdeen Angus bulls show in their calves remarkable improvement over themselves in type and quality. It should be remembered that the value of the grade is due to the characters derived from pure-bred ancestors.

GOOD ROADS AND GOOD SCHOOLS

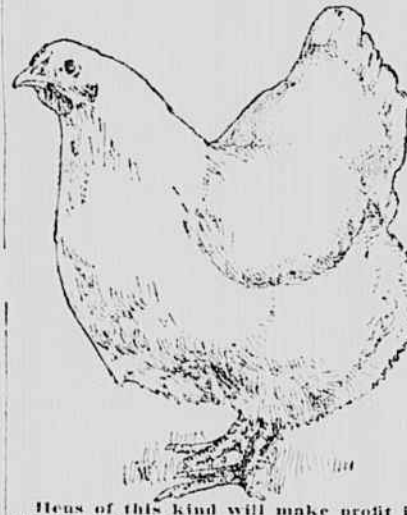
That improved roads would benefit our country school system, there would seem to be no doubt. Improved roads make it possible to consolidate or centralize the schools and to establish graded schools in the rural districts. Such schools centrally located will accommodate all the children within a radius of from four to five miles. In many communities having the advantage of improved roads, commodious buildings have been provided, more competent teachers have been employed, and modern facilities for teaching have been supplied at a minimum cost. For instance, since the improvement of the main highways in Durham County, North Carolina, the number of schoolhouses has been reduced from sixty-five to forty-two, of which seventeen are graded and have two or more rooms, and employ two or more teachers.

There are at the present time about 2,500 consolidated rural schools in the United States. It appears that Massa-

chusetts, Ohio and Indiana have made the greatest progress along these lines, and it is rather significant to note that in these States about one-third of the roads have been improved. According to statistics of the Agricultural Department, there was expended in 1909, \$22,116 in Massachusetts for the conveyance of pupils to consolidated schools, but in 1909 the expenditure for this purpose amounted to \$292,213. In Indiana, the expenditure for this purpose in 1909 amounted to \$36,909, while in 1908 \$290,000 was expended. This expenditure for transportation reflects, in a general way, the extent and progress of this new educational movement. It must not be understood that this is an additional burden, as the expenditure thus made is saved in other directions—that is, by the decrease in the number of schools and economy in their operation.

Ideas as to Marketing.
The marketing of farm products, particularly the quickly perishable produce, is one of the largest problems of the times. It will not admit of one change in custom or legislation. It cannot be solved by any one individual, and will come slowly, but surely, when producers, either individually or through their associations, give as much attention to the business of marketing their crops as the produce warrants.

Window and Porch Boxes.
When providing window and veranda boxes remember that those made of metal or stone heat and bake the soil in warm weather. Plain wooden boxes painted green with holes for drainage do very well, and are allowed to have vines to trail over the sides of.



A true bird to head a flock.

with a solution of one tablespoonful of carbolic acid to a gallon of water. Absolute cleanliness is about the only way to abolish flies.

Taking the School to the Farmer.
Sixty-two railroad instruction trains operated during last year by the office of experiment stations of the United States Department of Agriculture covered more than 35,000 miles, and the meetings held in them were attended by nearly 1,000,000 people. Nineveh schools to the number of 149 were held, with an attendance of 40,000. Farmers' institutes, of which more than 15,000 sessions were held, brought together more than 2,000,000 persons to discuss agricultural affairs. Counting special institutes, the attendance was more than 3,000,000—an increase of over 400,000 over the previous year.

Add to the above figures those made by institute trains sent out by State Agricultural Departments, and you get an idea of the wonderful efforts being made to help farmers along.

Have a Well-Prepared Seed Bed.
The tender nature of the young alfalfa makes a well-prepared seed bed necessary. The root of the young plant strikes down immediately, and it will be seriously injured if it strikes a layer of dry, loose soil at the bottom of an old furrow, or if the ground has many hard, unbroken clods in it. A very good plan is to let the ground settle for a few weeks before seeding. It is also important that the preparation of the ground be uniform, as the poorly prepared spots are likely to fail, and these bare places will form centres from which weeds will spread, and perhaps injure the entire field.

Why?
Why should any farmer give ground room to trees that do not produce the interest on the value of the land, when, by the use of a few dollars' worth of spraying material and a bit of muscle, he can bring them up to a paying productiveness?

Getting Rid of Flies in the Country.
Mrs. T. R. Gallaher, of Hickory Grove, Va., has been studying the fly problem and doing some good work towards its solution. In short, only good feeders should be selected.

"Flies breed in manure piles and out-houses and in other filth they can find."

If you read

Our ads with a fair degree of regularity, won't you let us send you a copy of the booklet—"Is Your House in Order?"

We have a reason for asking the favor, and besides you will find it one of the most interesting things you have read in months! It takes five minutes to read and makes your hair stand on end!

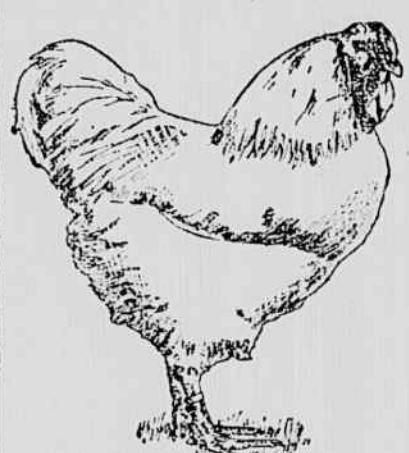
Call Madison 3348 or write a postal, or step in our office and get a copy.

Remember our name—please!

"VIRGINIA"

"The Safe Executor," 1106 East Main Street, Richmond, Va.

It is hard to get rid of them once they are in the house, and the best way is to destroy their breeding places. Sprinkle the manure piles with kerosene oil, or better—remove the piles to the fields, where they belong. If the stables are close to the house, it will be almost impossible to prevent the flies from troubling you. Slop should never be thrown near the house or allowed to stand in vessels, but should be removed to a great distance and buried. Screen all the doors, windows and kitchen sink, where flies are plentiful.



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WEEKLY FINANCIAL REVIEW

New York, June 14.—The New York stock market attributed the recession of activity last week to expectation of the freight rates decision, but the torpidity, common to all great financial markets, was accompanied by steady progress toward solution of market problems.

Adjustments in the foreign financial positions were important. New York contributed with a record week's export of gold.

The indication that London's necessities for gold might be met after the satisfaction of the French demand was a factor in tranquilizing sentiment abroad. Another factor was the promise of an early French loan and the unloading of other government refundings dating from the Balkan War. This tie-up of capital is called the prime influence in the world-wide stagnation of investment demand.

Local money conditions were still easy. The government estimate of a wheat crop 100,000,000 bushels in excess of last year's record yield and the poor promise for crops abroad, point to heavy exports.

Demand for steel products indicated a turn in the market and led to a building permit for leading firms showed a trend toward improvement. Demand for copper was stimulated by reduction of prices.

New England textile industries, the prospects of plentiful harvests inspired confidence in a later trade revival.

WEEKLY COTTON REVIEW

New Orleans, June 14.—The cotton market had an upward tendency this week on continued reports of drought in the Eastern belt, poor crop accounts, stories of a late start in Texas, and rather sensational telegrams regarding the prevalence of the boll weevil in Mississippi, Alabama and portions of Texas. The buying from the long side put prices in the highest levels of the week on Friday, when the trading months were 18 to 23 points over last week's closing figures.

The week closed at a net gain of five points, except on July, which was unchanged.

Offsetting the bullish new from the fields was considerable buying of long cotton. The market held up fairly well under the selling, although no wide advances were scored. The lowest price of the week was on Monday, when the market stood six to eight points under last week's close.

This week the condition of rain in the Atlantic will loom up large. Showers of any consequence over Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and the Carolinas would stimulate heavy selling, while lack of moisture would be a bullish factor of importance, and would cause continued support to be given the market. The trade this week will attempt to get full information regarding the replanting, and in some sections the first planting. It is generally acknowledged that seed which does not go into the ground this week will never be planted. News regarding this work may have an important influence on the fluctuations of the week, for it will have a direct bearing on the question of acreage.

AUCTION SALES—Future Days

By Green & Redd, Real Estate Auctioneers.

AUCTION SALE OF

NEW DETACHED BRICK INVESTMENT PROPERTY, RENTED TO COLORED PEOPLE, AND NOW PAYING ABOUT 14 PER CENT.

No. 1604 1/2 Ashland Street

ON TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 1914.

at 6 o'clock P. M.

on the premises, we will offer the above property at auction.

This property is well built, having three-story brick walls to the top, and having water, sewer, bath and toilet.

TERMS: Announced at sale.

GREEN & REDD, Auctioneers.

The Implement Co.

Have just received a new stock of those stylish

Oxford Buggies and Runabouts

Substantial, durable and well made, and at very reasonable prices. See our stock on second floor of our salesrooms.

1302 Main Street

We also carry full stock of Richmond-made HARNESSES, LAPS, WHIPS, etc.

Wood's Seeds

Seed Potatoes FOR FALL CROP.

The planting of Seed Potatoes in June and July is increasing to a wonderful extent. A great many farmers claim that they give better crops planted at this time than they do when planted in the spring. Potatoes planted in June and July mature in the cool weather of the fall, at a time when they can be harvested to best advantage.

The Seed Potatoes we offer are put in cold storage early in the season, so as to keep in first-class, vigorous condition.

"Wood's Crop Special" gives prices and full information about Late Seed Potatoes and all other Seasonable Seeds, mailed free on request.

T. W. WOOD & SONS, Seedsmen, - Richmond, Va.

AUCTION SALES—Future Days

By J. D. Carneal & Son, Real Estate Auctioneers, No. 4 North Eleventh Street.

AUCTION SALE OF

EXCELLENT BRICK CORNER PROPERTY, NOS. 900 AND 902 EAST LEIGH STREET.

ON TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 1914, at 6 o'clock P. M.

on the premises, we will offer for sale the above property. This lot fronts 45 feet 4 inches by 100 feet deep, to an alley 10 feet wide. The improvements consist of two well-built three-story brick dwellings, in good order, and rented to first-class tenants at \$900 per annum. This is a valuable corner property, and will pay well as an investment, as it is almost impossible to ever find a dwelling for rent in this locality. This property being centrally located and on the corner, with a good frontage and depth, will make an ideal site for a hospital or some other institution. Don't fail to attend sale if you want a bargain.

TERMS: Liberal, and announced at sale.

By Pollard & Bagby.

AUCTION SALE OF

One of the best houses in one of the best locations on Church Hill, known as No. 317 North 23rd Street.

We will sell at auction, on the premises,

THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 18, 1914, at 6 o'clock.

the above mentioned desirable nine-room detached brick house. The property has a heating plant, and is in nice location, and the parties are desirous of selling. If you want a nice home on Church Hill this is your chance to get it.

Terms easy, and announced at sale.

POLLARD & BAGBY, Auctioneers.

SCHOOLS

McGuire's University 1865 School 1914

JOHN P. MCGUIRE, Principal

University of Virginia.

May 23, 1914.

Principal John P. McGuire's University School is one of the very finest types of Southern private schools for preparation for college. It has descended from father to son within some fifty years of high success, and stands to-day in the prime of its working efficiency. The students from McGuire's are uniformly successful under me. I can recommend the school without reserve.

THOMAS FITZHUGH, Professor of Latin.

Virginia Military Institute

"THE WEST POINT OF THE SOUTH" College and technical courses combined with the rigid discipline of army post. Virginia Cadets tuition free. Lexington, Va. Gen. E. W. NICHOLS, Supt.

SCHOOL OF EXPRESSION

Mind-body-voice. Lead. For 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 158th, 159th, 160th, 161st, 162nd, 163rd, 164th, 165th, 166th, 167th, 168th, 169th, 170th, 171st, 172nd, 173rd, 174th, 175th, 176th, 177th, 178th, 179th, 180th, 181st, 182nd, 183rd, 184th, 185th, 186th, 187th, 188th, 189th, 190th, 191st, 192nd, 193rd, 194th, 195th, 196th, 197th, 198th, 199th, 200th, 201st, 202nd, 203rd, 204th, 205th, 206th, 207th, 208th, 209th, 210th, 211st, 212th, 213th, 214th, 215th, 216th, 217th, 218th, 219th, 220th, 221st, 222nd, 223rd, 224th, 225th, 226th, 227th, 228th, 229th, 230th, 231st, 232nd, 233rd, 234th, 235th, 236th, 237th, 238th, 239th, 240th, 241st, 242nd, 243rd, 244th, 245th, 246th, 247th, 248th, 249th, 250th, 251st, 252nd, 253rd, 254th, 255th, 256th, 257th, 258th, 259th, 260th, 261st, 262nd, 263rd, 264th, 265th, 266th, 267th, 268th, 269th, 270th, 271st, 272nd, 273rd, 274th, 275th, 276th, 277th, 278th, 279th, 280th, 281st, 282nd, 283rd, 284th, 285th, 286th, 287th, 288th, 289th, 290th, 291st, 292nd, 293rd, 294th, 295th, 296th, 297th, 298th, 299th, 300th, 301st, 302nd, 303rd, 304th, 305th, 306th, 307th, 308th, 309th, 310th, 311st, 312th, 313th, 314th, 315th, 316th, 317th, 318th, 319th, 320th, 321st, 322nd, 323rd, 324th, 325th, 326th, 327th, 328th, 329th, 330th, 331st, 332nd, 333rd, 334th, 335th, 336th, 337th, 338th, 339th, 340th, 341st, 342nd, 343rd, 344th, 345th, 346th, 347th, 348th, 349th, 350th, 351st, 352nd, 353rd, 354th, 355th, 356th, 357th, 358th, 359th, 360th, 361st, 362nd, 363rd, 364th, 365th, 366th, 367th, 368th, 369th, 370th, 371st, 372nd, 373rd, 374th, 375th, 376th, 377th, 378th, 379th, 380th, 381st, 382nd, 383rd, 384th, 385th, 386th, 387th, 388th, 389th, 390th, 391st, 392nd, 393rd, 394th, 395th, 396th, 397th, 398th, 399th, 400th, 401st, 402nd, 403rd, 404th, 405th, 406th, 407th, 408th, 409th, 410th, 411st, 412th, 413th, 414th, 415th, 416th, 417th, 418th, 419th, 420th, 421st, 422nd, 423rd, 424th, 425th, 426th, 427th, 428th, 4